

**From:** M Lobo  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 10:32am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Hello:

My name is Michael Lobo, 15 Matthew Drive, Franklin MA 02038.

I wanted to ask you folks to reconsider your proposed settlement with Microsoft.

As a software engineering manager ( I am currently the Director for Software Development at a small startup company ) with 15 year experience in the software world ( the last 7 have been "Microsoft" focused ) - I have seen enough abuse from Microsoft.

They have fantastic products. In the past I have cheered them on - glad to have some universal standards that people can focus on. Now that they have THE operating system, THE Office package, THE development products - they are taking advantage of their monopolistic position. They are completely abusing their powerful position - proof of that is in their recently released licensing scheme WPA. If any other company tried to sell a product that requires ( requires!!! ) a phone call or email to activate - even through the customer fully paid ( in whole! ) for that product - the company would fail. That policy is ONLY viable in a monopoly. The ensuing hardships for individual and small business users ( I am both ) is significant.

If I had a realistic alternative - I would use it -- but Microsoft is successfully doing everything they can to prevent that from happening.

We need to protect the software industry from this type of abuse. Handing MS the proposed settlement will be the same as giving them a green light to continue their predatory and anti-competitive practices.

Regards,  
Michael